

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

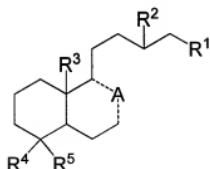
The claims in this listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-15 (Canceled)

Claim 16. (Currently Amended) An external preparation for skin, comprising:

(A) one, or two or more compounds represented by formula (1) below:



(in formula (1), R¹ represents -CH₂OH or COOR⁶, R⁶ represents hydrogen, a lower alkyl group having the number of carbon atoms of 1 to 3, or a cation capable of forming a salt with COO⁻, each of R² to R⁵ independently represents a hydrogen atom or methyl group, and · · · A · · · represents =C(CH₃)-, -C(CH₃)=, -C(=CH₂)-, -CH(CH₃)- or

[[-C(OH)(CH₃)-]] -C(OH)(CH₃)-; and

(B) one, or two or more medicinal ingredients selected from the group consisting of *Glycyrrhiza glabra* extract, *Coix lachryma-jobi* extract, blackcurrant fruit extract, *Inula britannica* extract, cranberry fruit extract, *Mucuna birdwoodiana* extract, cactus extract, *Momordica grosvenorii* extract, and astaxanthin and its derivatives.

Claims 17-18. (Canceled)

Claim 19. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said compound represented by formula (1) is a compound, or a compound prepared from said compound extracted from one, or two or more plants selected from the plant group consisting of *Cistaceae* including *Cistus ladaniferus* L., *Cistus creticus* L., *Cistus monoperiensis* L. and *Cistus salvifolius*.

Claim 20. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in Claim 16, being blended with one, or two or more extracts, containing said compound represented by formula (1), selected from the plant group consisting of *Cistaceae* including *Cistus ladaniferus* L. , *Cistus creticus* L., *Cistus monoperiensis* L. and *Cistus salvifolius*.

Claims 21-24 (Canceled)

Claim 25. (Previously Presented) A process for skin whitening, comprising applying an external preparation as set forth in claim 16 to the skin.

Claim 26. (Previously Presented) A process for skin anti-aging, comprising applying an external preparation as set forth in claim 16 to the skin.